

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 ARA-11 ADP-00 OIC-04 SPM-01 AID-20 HEW-08

SIL-01 LAB-06 USIA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01

L-03 RSR-01 /093 W

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FM AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8181

UNCLAS SANTO DOMINGO 2279

E. O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: OCON, SGEN, DR

SUBJECT: UN SEMINAR ON STATUS OF WOMEN AND FAMILY PLANNING-
SANTO DOMINGO, MAY 9-22 - ROUNDUP

DEP PASS HEW, LABOR, USIA, IO/ LABW

REF: STATE 078249

S. HENDSCH, STATE DEPARTMENT MEMBER OF U. S. DELEGATION TO
SUBJECT SEMINAR, HAS REQUESTED MISSION TO SEND THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE
FOR ATTENTION OF HEW, LABOR, USIA, AND IO/ LABW:

1. CONCLUDING SESSION APPROVED SERIES OF RECOMMENDATIONS ON
FAMILY PLANNING AND HEALTH CARE, EDUCATION, AND STATUS OF WOMEN
WITH PARTICULAR RESPECT TO FAMILY LAW, AND ENDORSED RECOMMENDATION
OF ISTANBUL SEMINAR. REITERATED THAT UN G. A. SHOULD DECLARE FAMILY
PLANNING A BASIC HUMAN RIGHT (PREFERABLY BEFORE IPY 1974).

2. HEAVIER EMPHASIS ON FAMILY PLANNING AND HEALTH CARE SYSTEMS THAN
ON STATUS OF WOMEN ISSUES PROBABLY DUE TO SMALL NUMBER OF
STATUS OF WOMEN EXPERTS AT THIS MEETING. REPRESENTATIVES FROM
CARIBBEAN AREA MADE EXCELLENT CONTRIBUTION, WERE BETTER INFORMED
ON STATUS OF WOMEN AND FP. HIGHLIGHTS WERE RECOMMENDATIONS FOR
LIBERALIZATION OF LAWS TO PERMIT THERAPEUTIC ABORTIONS FOR ESTAB-
LISHED MEDICAL REASONS, AND A FORCEFUL RECOMMENDATION ON ELIMINATION
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OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST CHILDREN BORN OUT OF WEDLOCK. OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS AS FOLLOWS:

A. FAMILY PLANNING AND HEALTH CARE: INTENSIVE, CONTINUOUS INFORMATION AND EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS AS INTEGRAL PART OF FP PROGRAMS AT ALL LEVELS OF SOCIETY TO ELIMINATE BELIEF FP IS SYNONYMOUS WITH BIRTH CONTROL; 2) GREATER EMPHASIS BY GOVERNMENTS ON DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH NETWORKS TO PROMOTE HEALTH OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN WITH FP AS PART OF PROGRAMS THAT STRESS CONTRACEPTION AS A PRO-PHYLACTIC HEALTH MEASURE; 3) LABELING OF CONTRACEPTIVES AS TO HEALTH RISKS; 4) INCREASED RESEARCH ON CONTRACEPTIVES AND REVERSIBLE METHODS OF STERILIZATION; 5) LIBERALIZATION OF PRESENT LAWS TO PERMIT THERAPEUTIC ABORTIONS; 6) USE OF MASS MEDIA TO PROMOTE FP; 7) EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS THAT STRESS RESPONSIBLE PARENTHOOD AND UNITY AND STABILITY OF FAMILY.

B. EDUCATION: 1) GOVERNMENTS TAKE APPROPRIATE ACTION TO ASSURE ACCESS TO FREE EDUCATION AT PRIMARY AND SECONDARY LEVEL; 2) DEVELOP EDUCATIONAL POLICIES TO PREPARE CHILDREN FOR FAMILY AND SEX LIFE; 3) EXPAND FUNCTIONAL LITERACY AND ADULT EDUCATION COURSES BY GOVERNMENTS AND SPECIALIZED AGENCIES OF FAO, ILU, UNESCO; 4) EXTEND TECHNICAL, INDUSTRIAL, AGRICULTURAL TRAINING TO WOMEN WITHOUT REGARD TO THE TRADITIONAL IMAGES OF MEN'S WORK AND WOMEN'S WORK.

C. STATUS OF WOMEN: 1) RATIFICATION AND/ OR IMPLEMENTATION OF UN CONVENTIONS AND OTHER INSTRUMENTS THAT ESTABLISH PRINCIPLE OF EQUAL RIGHTS FOR WOMEN; 2) REVIEW OR ENACTMENT OF NATIONAL LEGISLATION

HAVING BEARING ON STATUS OF WOMEN AND FP I. E., LAWS ON AGE OF MARRIAGE, INHERITANCE, DIVORCE, ETC.; 3) REFORM OF ANACHRONISTIC PROVISIONS RELATING TO FAMILY LAW TO REFLECT CURRENT SOCIAL REALITIES AND PROMOTE CONCEPT OF RESPONSIBLE PARENTHOOD; 4) ELIMINATION OF PREVAILING SOCIAL DISCRIMINATION AGAINST CHILDREN BORN OUT OF WEDLOCK; 5) ELIMINATION OF LEGAL PROVISIONS THAT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST WOMEN ON BASIS OF SEX; 6) ESTABLISHMENT OF DAY CARE AND CHILD CENTERS IN URBAN AND RURAL AREAS; 7) PROVISION OF COUNSELLING SERVICES BY GOVERNMENTS, NGO'S, AND TRADE UNIONS TO INFORM WOMEN OF THEIR RIGHTS. (GOVERNMENTS REQUESTED TO DIRECT ATTENTION OF MASS MEDIA TO THESE RESPONSIBILITIES BY FORBIDDING THE MEDIA TO USE ADVERTISEMENTS THAT DENIGRATE WOMEN BY PRESENTING HER AS A SEX OBJECT); 8) DATA ON MIGRATION AND SOCIAL CONSEQUENCES

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TO WOMEN.

3. M. COSTA WELL RECEIVED AND EXTREMELY POPULAR WITH ALL DELEGATIONS. MELOY

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NMAFVVZCZ

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